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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Monforte *et al.*
Serial No.: 09/139,386
Confirmation No.: 5243
Filed: August 25, 1998
For: PRIMERS USEFUL FOR SIZING
NUCLEIC ACIDS
Art Unit: 1637
Examiner: Tung, J.



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Alicia Bradbury
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AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action, mailed April 10, 2002, entry of the following amendments and consideration of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 1 with amended claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A nucleic acid primer having a 5' end and a 3' end, comprising:

- (a) a first region containing the 5' end of the primer and an immobilization attachment site; and
- (b) a second region containing the 3' end of the primer, wherein the 3' end is capable of being extended by an enzyme to generate an extension segment, and a chemically cleavable site,

whereby, when the primer is immobilized via the immobilization attachment site, and the chemically cleavable site is cleaved, the remainder of the primer remains immobilized.

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